

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1526 without my signature.

As the primary architect of Proposition 49, I have seen first-hand the countless benefits of after-school programs. In 2002, the voters overwhelmingly approved Proposition 49 to significantly expand access to after-school programs and this bill would contradict the will of the voters. The voters supported the \$550 million continuous appropriation that provides California's elementary and middle school children with a stable resource for tutoring, homework assistance, and educational enrichment activities, such as music, arts, and physical fitness, while providing working parents with peace of mind that their children are in a safe and nurturing environment.

For this reason, I am unable to sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger